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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/554,123	08/21/2006	Marja T. Nevalainen	GUH-P01-005	4634
23628 7590 01/24/2008 WOLF GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C. 600 ATLANTIC AVENUE BOSTON, MA 02210-2206			EXAMINER WOLLENBERGER, LOUIS V	
			ART UNIT 1635	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 01/24/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/554,123

Applicant(s)

NEVALAINEN, MARJA T.

Examiner

Louis V. Wollenberger

Art Unit

1635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 53 and 54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☒ Other: Notice to comply.

DETAILED ACTION

Status

Claims 1-54, filed 10/21/2005, are pending and subject to restriction as follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101 and §112

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 53 and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 53 and 54 provide for the use of an inhibitor of STAT5 activity to prepare a medicament, but, since the claim does not set forth any steps involved in the method/process, it is unclear what method/process applicant is intending to encompass. A claim is indefinite where it merely recites a use without any active, positive steps delimiting how this use is actually practiced.

Claims 53 and 54 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed recitation of a use, without setting forth any steps involved in the process, results in an improper definition of a process, i.e., results in a claim which is not a proper process claim under 35 U.S.C. 101. See

for example *Ex parte Dunki*, 153 USPQ 678 (Bd.App. 1967) and *Clinical Products, Ltd. v. Brenner*, 255 F. Supp. 131, 149 USPQ 475 (D.D.C. 1966).

Correction is required.

The Examiner notes that two sets of claims were filed on 10/21/05. However, the record is not clear. There is no clear indication of a preliminary amendment to the claims, nor any status identifiers clearly distinguishing one set of claims from another. One set of claims shows two claims 53 and amendments to both claims 53, amending one and, possibly, canceling the other. These amendments do not comply with 37 CFR §1.121, as no status identifiers have been provided and the claim numbering is not sequential. Moreover, text should not be shown for a cancelled claim. Accordingly, the claims subject to restriction below are claims 1-54 filed as part of PCT/US2004/012799, also submitted to the Office on 10/21/05 as part of the original filing.

Because no clear or definite interpretation of claims 53 and 54 is currently possible, the claims have not been included in any of Groups I-III, below. For example, it is unclear whether claims 53 and 54 define a product or a process for making a product. Should applicant amend the claims to overcome the instant rejection, Applicant is advised further restriction may be required, further delaying prosecution, unless applicant can show, and the Office agrees, that claims 53 and 54 as amended read on one of inventions I-III, below.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-24, 27-47, drawn to a method of inhibiting prostate cancer cell growth, comprising inhibiting STAT5 activity. Election of this group requires further election of a single inventive concept, as explained below.

Group II, claim(s) 25, 26, 48, 49, 51, 52, drawn to a method of diagnosing prostate cancer in a male, and to a method of predicting responsiveness of STAT5 inhibition. Election of this group requires further election of a single inventive concept, as explained below.

Group III, claim(s) 50, drawn to a method of identifying an agent that inhibits STAT5 activity in cancer cells.

The inventions listed as Groups I-III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The special technical feature of Group I is the step of inhibiting STAT5 activity to inhibit prostate cancer cell growth and treat prostate cancer in a patient, using an agent having a known inhibitory activity, which feature is not present in or specifically required Groups I or II. The special technical feature of Group II is the step of assaying activated STAT5 in a prostate tissue sample and using the assay data as a cancer diagnostic, which feature is not present in or required by any other group. The special technical feature of Group III is the act of screening candidate agents, having unknown inhibitory profiles, for their effect on STAT5 activity, which is not present in or required by any other group. Therefore, unity of invention is lacking *a priori*.

Further Elections

Groups I and II each contain claims drawn to a plurality of different inventions that do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features. Should Applicant elect to prosecute Group I or II, these groups are each subject to further restriction as follows.

With regard to Group I:

1. Claims 16 and 42 each recite several alternative methods, differing with regard to the STAT5 kinase targeted by the method. Each target represents a different special technical feature, as each target requires a different inhibitory agent. Applicant must elect one target, and thereby, one method.
2. Claims 3, 4, 24, 29, and 30 recite multiple methods that differ with regard to the type of STAT5 inhibitor used in the method. The inhibitor used represents the special technical feature of the method. Thus, the methods recited in claims 3, 4,

24, 29, and 30 lack the same or corresponding technical feature, as each method requires a different type of inhibitor—a small molecule, an siRNA, an antisense, an antibody, or a dominant-negative protein. Applicant must elect one.

- Should applicant elect either a "dominant-negative" protein or an "siRNA", applicant must then also elect a single method thereof from claims 5, 10, 12, 14, 31, 36, and 40. These methods differ with regard to the structure and function of the STAT5 polypeptide: STAT5a or STAT5b. Therefore, the methods have different special technical features, as each is directed to a different polypeptide. Applicant must elect one—STAT5a or STAT5b.
3. Claims 23 and 28 recite multiple alternative prostate cancer cell targets, including primary, advanced, and metastatic. Thus, the claims recite alternative methods, differing with regard to the target cell population. The particular population targeted defines a special technical feature not shared by any other method. Applicant must elect one type of cell for prosecution on the merits.

With regard to Group II: Applicant must further elect a single type of cell from claims 26 and 52, and a single immuno-based method from claim 48, which methods differ according to the steps, materials, and analysis required to carry out each method, which steps, materials, and analysis represent the special technical feature of that method.

Linked Inventions

Applicant is advised linking claim practice is in effect. Claim 1 link(s) the inventions of claims 2-24; claim 27, the inventions of claims 28-47; and claim 25, the inventions of claim 48. Furthermore, claim 2 is considered to be a nested linking claim. The restriction requirement among the linked inventions is **subject to** the nonallowance of the linking claim(s). Upon the indication of allowability of the linking claim(s), the restriction requirement as to the linked inventions **shall** be withdrawn and any claim(s) depending from or otherwise requiring all the limitations of the allowable linking claim(s) will be rejoined and fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104 **Claims that require all the limitations of an allowable linking claim** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final

rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

Applicant(s) are advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, the allowable linking claim, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Where a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Specification/Sequence Compliance

The disclosure is objected to because of the following: This application contains sequence disclosures that are encompassed by the definitions for nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences set forth in 37 CFR 1.821(a)(1) and (a)(2). However, this application fails to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.821 through 1.825 for the reason(s) set forth below or on the attached Notice To Comply With Requirements For Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence And/Or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures. The specification as filed does not comply with the requirements above, in particular 1.821(d), because it contains nucleotide sequences of over 10 nucleobases each that are not identified by accompanying sequence identifiers.

For example, the nucleic acid sequences (PCR primers) set forth at page 28. Applicants are advised to review the entire application—claims, drawings, and specification—for complete compliance with the Sequence Rules.

Thus, the Examiner notes herein that the above listed page, which set forth examples in the specification of nucleotide sequences that require SEQ ID NO: is by way of illustration. In order to be fully responsive to this Office Action, Applicant should review this application in its entirety to ensure compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.821 through 1.825 and to make all appropriate corrections.

Failure to comply with these requirements will result in ABANDONMENT of the application under 37 CFR 1.821(g).

Conclusion

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In

either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Louis V. Wollenberger whose telephone number is 571-272-8144. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Schultz can be reached on (571)272-0763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Louis Wollenberger/
Examiner, AU1635
January 7, 2008

Notice to Comply

Application No.

10554123

Examiner

Louis V. Wollenberger

Applicant(s)

NEVALAINEN, MARJA T.

Art Unit

1635

NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS FOR PATENT APPLICATIONS CONTAINING NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCE AND/OR AMINO ACID SEQUENCE DISCLOSURES

Applicant must file the items indicated below within the time period set in the Office action to which the Notice is attached to avoid abandonment under 35 U.S.C. § 133 (extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a)).

The nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosure contained in this application does not comply with the requirements for such a disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.821 - 1.825 for the following reason(s):

- ☒ 1. This application clearly fails to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.821-1.825. Applicant's attention is directed to the final rulemaking notice published at 55 FR 18230 (May 1, 1990), and 1114 OG 29 (May 15, 1990). If the effective filing date is on or after July 1, 1998, see the final rulemaking notice published at 63 FR 29620 (June 1, 1998) and 1211 OG 82 (June 23, 1998).
- ☒ 2. This application does not contain, as a separate part of the disclosure on paper copy, a "Sequence Listing" as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.821(c).
- ☒ 3. A copy of the "Sequence Listing" in computer readable form has not been submitted as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.821(e).
- ☐ 4. A copy of the "Sequence Listing" in computer readable form has been submitted. However, the content of the computer readable form does not comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.822 and/or 1.823, as indicated on the attached copy of the marked -up "Raw Sequence Listing."
- ☐ 5. The computer readable form that has been filed with this application has been found to be damaged and/or unreadable as indicated on the attached CRF Diskette Problem Report. A Substitute computer readable form must be submitted as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.825(d).
- ☐ 6. The paper copy of the "Sequence Listing" is not the same as the computer readable form of the "Sequence Listing" as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.821(e).
- ☒ 7. Other: Sequences at page 28 of the specification have not been identified by SEQ ID NO: as required by the Rules.

Applicant Must Provide:

- ☒ An initial or substitute computer readable form (CRF) copy of the "Sequence Listing".
- ☒ An initial or substitute paper copy of the "Sequence Listing", **as well as an amendment specifically directing its entry into the specification.**
- ☒ A statement that the content of the paper and computer readable copies are the same and, where applicable, include no new matter, as required by 37 C.F.R. 1.821(e) or 1.821(f) or 1.821(g) or 1.825(b) or 1.825(d).

For questions regarding compliance to these requirements, please contact:

For Rules Interpretation, call (571) 272-2510

For CRF Submission Help, call (571) 272-2501/2583.

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